

12-27-01

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.


 Rosalie A. Centeno, Secretary

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, DC 20231

Re: New U.S. Patent Application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) – Norbert Apfel, et al

CUTTING BLADE FOR A MOTOR-DRIVEN, MANUALLY-GUIDED IMPLEMENT

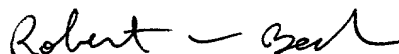
Sir:

1. Please find enclosed herewith for filing: 13 pages specification, 4 pages (19) claims, 1 page abstract, combined declaration and power of attorney, and 3 pages, 4 figures, drawings in support of the above identified application.
2. It is respectfully requested that this application be granted the priority date of December 22, 2000, the filing date of the corresponding German patent application 200 21 767.4. A certified copy of said priority document is filed herewith.
3. Also enclosed herewith is an assignment from the inventors, Norbert Apfel, Dr. Roland Schierling, Dr. Helmut Köstner, and Norbert Rehbein, to Andreas Stihl AG & Co., Badstr. 115, D-71336 Waiblingen, Germany, which you will kindly record at the Patent and Trademark Office.
4. I am enclosing my check in the amount of \$780.00* to cover the official fees of:

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Basic fee | \$740.00 |
| Additional fees: | |
| Total number of claims in excess of 20 (# claims times \$18.00) | \$ 00.00 |
| Number of independent claims in excess of 3 (# claims times \$84.00) | \$ 00.00 |
| Assignment recording fee | \$ 40.00 |
| TOTAL FEE | <u>\$780.00</u> |

* It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and any fees required or any shortages of fees required be charged to Deposit Account 02-1653.

Respectfully,

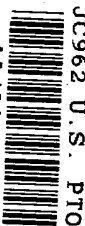


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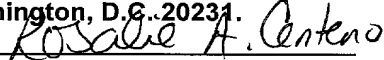
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I hereby certify that the attached Assignment document, pertaining to the attached new patent application (Attorney Docket #A 91 206), which is being filed on behalf of Norbert Apfel, et al, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.


Rosalie A. Centeno, Secretary

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